

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Hi, to all founding members and Brahma Fanciers.

The Brahma feature at Castle Hill was a great success, if the number of entries was anything to go by. Many thanks go to our judge for the day, Ken Bergin, who also judged the Faverolles feature. A thank you also to Warren Schutz for stewarding, while I was attending The Belgian bantam Club meeting. (Very much appreciated)

Thanks also goes to all the breeders and exhibitors of Brahma Large Fowl and Brahma bantams. At the feature show. Without your dedication to this Majestic Fowl, a part of the Poultry fancy would be lost forever.

Finally a Special note of appreciation for Irene Hannan (Belgian Bantam Club Secretary) who helped me organise the Brahma feature, in conjunction with the Annual Belgian Bantam Club Show.

Carol Abuid has generously accepted the role of Secretary of our new Brahma Club of Australia, and has quickly set things in motion to secure a firm foundation for a successful club. I would like to repeat Carol's plea, for anyone who can contribute articles and ideas for the Newsletter. The articles could contain information on how you obtained your Brahma's or how you developed them.

I would like to congratulate all the exhibitors at the Brahma feature for the quality of fowls. It was nice to see most of the standard colours represented and pleasing to have so many Dark Bantams on show. Unfortunately no Large Dark Brahma's were on show but possibly in two or three years time.

Don't forget to exhibit your Brahma's as often as possible. Some clubs are willing to change when you exhibit year after year, and to eventually include Brahma's in their show schedule so that you are not exhibiting in the AOV classes all the time.

Signs that winter is fading, (and the accompanying snow falls) and the promise of Spring, is symbolised by the first hatch of the season. In my case some Large Gold and Large Black Brahma chickens.

Best wishes to all in their breeding programs and hatching.

Kind Regards  
Andrew.

## OUR VERY FIRST NEWSLETTER

Welcome everyone, to The Brahma Club of Australia.

We are hoping to produce a Newsletter four times a year. To do this we will need articles to print, and any information of Show results where Brahm,as have been shown. DON'T be shy. Without this sort of information, we cannot put a Newsletter together, so it is up to you the members to put in.

The club was started as a result of a Feature Show, with The Belgian Bantam Club of Australia held in July 2000 at The Castle Hill Showgrounds, Sydney. At this Feature Show there were 120 birds entered in total. It was great to see so many Brahma's together at one place, and Thanks must go to Andrew Rathbone, who organised the Feature Show, for without Andrew's hard work, the feature would not have gone ahead.

The Results of the Feature Show are as follows:

### LARGE

Best Pair	A Rathbone
Best Gold	A Rathbone
Best Light	A Rathbone
Best Buff	A Rathbone
Best Large	A Rathbone
Best opposite Sex	A Rathbone
CHAMPION BRAHMA	A Rathbone

### BANTAM

Best Light	B Raines
Best Dark	D Jones
Best Black	K&C Abuid
Best AOC	D&T Saunders
BEST BANTAM	B Raines

The club is going to hold it's first Show on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2001 at Castle Hill in Sydney. Please try to give this Show all your support and participate by exhibiting your birds. As this will be a club, and not a Feature Show we will have to provide our own trophies and Awards, as well as contribute to the shed hire. If any members have ideas for trophies, or donations, please contact either Andrew or myself, so that we can get organised and not leave it till the last minute.

I would like to let everyone know that a letter of Thanks, has been sent to Megg Miller, who so kindly helped, by advertising that the Brahm,a Club had been formed in the August/Sept. Issue of Australasian Poultry. Details have been sent to the editor of the VPFA Journal to put in their Newsletter to members and also the editor of The ARMBA News. (Australian Rare and Minority Breeds Association Inc.) If anyone has any other suggestions of where to advertise the Clubs formation, please let me know and I will follow it up.

For those of you on email: [brahma@telstra.easymail.com.au](mailto:brahma@telstra.easymail.com.au)  
Carol

## **HOW I GOT STARTED**

A Rathbone

I started a breeding program to try and develop the Large Darks a few years ago. I wanted to obtain some Silver Pencilled large fowl to make things easier, but these were practically non-existent. The only breed in Australia with that colour is the Wyandotte, but as I said earlier these were unprocurable.

I decided to use a black fowl, the Croad Langshan, to achieve this goal. I picked the Croad mainly because of type and the fact that it had foot feather. This later aspect proved misleading, even while I bred the trio of Croads that I obtained in the one pen, fifty per cent of the resultant chickens did not have any trace of foot or shank feather. This aspect was repeated when they were crossed with Light Brahma. This is in stark contrast when I crossed the Brahma" with my Light Sussex with all chickens having foot feather and a Pea Comb.

I have transformed my Large Dark program into that of gold Brahma's by using Large Partridge Wyandotte of good size and type. By using the Wyandotte, I have recovered the Yellow leg colour which was lost with the very dominant black colour of the Croad Langshan. My remaining dark breeding stock has been dispersed to some new Brahma breeders, and wish them well in their endeavours.

One by-product of the Dark Brahma breeding program was that of a near black fowl. Some pullets "Blackish" fowls of good Brahma type to see if I can develop the black a bit further. It was interesting to see black bantams on show at the brahma feature.

## **HOW I GOT STARTED WITH BRAHMA'S**

C Abuid

Just a little history on how I got started with Brahma's.

My husband Khris and myself were at The Annual show and AGM of The Belgian Bantam Club of Australia, at the Fairfield Showgrounds in July 1998. There was also a Rare Breeds Show on there at the same time. While I was going walkabout around the Rare Breeds Show, I came across a feather legged Light Sussex, or so I thought when I saw it. I fell in love with them so much and had to get some there and then. It was not to be. After making inquiries at the Show, I was introduced to Bruce Pattinson, whose birds they were. Bruce soon enlightened us as to the fact that these birds were in fact Brahma's.

I duly received our eggs and incubated them. A little later I ordered some from George Childs, who duly sent us some eggs and I was off and running. I had chicks everywhere. In the following May at the Australian rare and Minority Breeds Show at Wangaratta, Lance Hicks purchased a Brahma that was pretty!!! Pretty you may say, but as we were later to see on the Internet at the International Brahma Club site, it appears to be a Salmon Hen. This hen was actually what the breeder regards as a cull from his Light Breeding program.

Next I purchased two dark Cockerels from a sale at Benalla. I put a dark cockerel over the Salmon and got a Laced Salmon as opposed to the Salmon shown on the Internet.

In this last year i was contacted by Alex King who is a prolific breeder down here of the Brahma's. He was kind enough to give me some eggs of the Buff Columbian, which I hatched. By this time my heart was set on the Dark. The pictures that I had seen of them had grabbed me. I contacted Don Jones up at Wyong, who sold me some eggs, but our success rate was not good. Don then offered more eggs, and as we were due to go to my sons wedding in Queensland in the November, it was arranged to call in at Dons on the way home. Don was kind enough to replace the eggs as well as selling me some birds as well.

As you can tell, I'm going full steam ahead here and that is not counting the other half's Belgian Bantams of which he has twelve colours, and the prospect of getting the very Rare d'Watermael in two colours very shortly.

So far this season I have hatched 11 out of 14 eggs with a Dark hen sitting also. For me the season is looking good so far, and I certainly hope you all have a good year to.

PS. For those who may be travelling distance and are interested, we are having an Open Day here on Sunday September 10<sup>th</sup> for The Australian Rare and Minority Breeds Association Inc. This will give people a chance to see the Brahma's I'm working on.

Many Thanks  
Carol Abuid



Photo's

Top Left ....Andrew Rathbones  
Champion Light brahma Bantam

Above.....Don Jones being Awarded Best dark  
Brahma Bantam

Left .....Andrew Rathbones Best Large Gold  
Brahma.

- There is an excellent article in the Australasian Poultry Oct / Nov 1999 by Megg Miller. If possible will see if we can reproduce sections at a later date.

It is now up to you all as members to put in, if you want a newsworthy Newsletter. Remember, what you know, others may not know, so please help by putting pen to paper.

We come to the end of our first Newsletter. Here's hoping that you'll all have a Great Breeding season and if anyone has stock available for sale at any time, please let me know so that if there are any inquiries, we can direct the person to one of you.

If you wish you can advertise to other members through this Newsletter. PLEASE make sure that you notify me by the start of November, February, May and August.

If as members, you feel that you distribute this Newsletter to other interested parties please let me know and I will forward extra copies on to you , but please remember this all costs.

**The closing date for the next Newsletter is the start of November.**

Happy Breeding  
Carol